

MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK

Adjourned Meeting
March 12, 2002

6:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened. An Adjourned Meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2002, in the East Room, York Hall, by Chairman Donald E. Wiggins.

Attendance. The following members of the Board of Supervisors were present: Walter C. Zarembo, Sheila S. Noll, Donald E. Wiggins, James S. Burgett, and Thomas G. Shepperd.

Also in attendance were James O. McReynolds, County Administrator; and James E. Barnett, County Attorney.

DEVELOPMENT OF GOLF COURSE ON FUEL FARM PROPERTY (Not on Agenda)

Mr. McReynolds briefed the Board members on the procurement process for the proposed golf course to be developed on the fuel farm property. Early last May the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the State to market the State Fuel Farm at Route 199 and the Parkway in the upper County to develop it for a golf course. Shortly afterwards, the IDA and staff set out to develop an RFP with the State Procurement Office which was a fairly lengthy process. On November 5 the RFP was issued on behalf of the IDA and mailed to 80 different firms and advertised in two newspapers, the Contractor's Exchange, and on cable television. A pre-proposal meeting was held on November 27, and January 18 of this year was the deadline for submissions. Five proposals were received, and they were reviewed and ranked by the evaluation committee using certain criteria regarding the operation of golf courses. The committee ranked two proposals as being far superior to the others, and on February 22 the two proposers were interviewed. On February 26 a group visited one of the proposers' golf courses and provided input to the evaluation committee.

On March 1 the Hawk's Nest group was notified as being the #1 proposer. The IDA is now negotiating the final agreement. Once reached, it will go to the State for negotiation of a lease for the property. Once this is completed, construction should begin and the course completed within nine months to one year of construction start-up.

Mr. Zarembo explained that he had asked Mr. McReynolds for the update on this project. He stated he felt there should be more dialog between the IDA and the Board on this initiative, and he felt the Board was not informed to the extent it should have been prior to the award. He stated he felt the project was a real positive to the County's Parks and Recreation Program.

He noted he did not understand who would actually own the property. Mr. Zarembo stated he understood a meeting was being scheduled between the Board and the IDA sometime soon.

Mr. McReynolds stated there was no definite date at this time, but it should be within the next 6-8 weeks. He indicated that as he understood it, the State will lease the property to the IDA which will, in turn, lease the property to the golf course. At the end of the lease period, the property will revert to the State. With regard to a County budgetary commitment, he stated no funds were committed to this project nor were any proposed to be.

Mr. James Noel, Director of Economic Development, confirmed that the State would retain ownership of the property. The terms of the lease have yet to be determined, and he spoke of the important elements that will be included in the agreement such as level of quality and maintenance for the course. He also stated the County will insist that it be a daily-play public course and that there be a break in greens fees for County residents, as well as a requirement for providing opportunities for the County's school golf teams and the Parks and Recreation Department.

WORK SESSION

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2003 BUDGET

Mr. McReynolds reviewed some of the high points in the information provided to the Board members last week in advance of this work session and the public hearing to be held on March 14. He indicated another work session was also scheduled for March 21. He asked the Board members to provide the staff with the areas of the budget or budget topics they would like the staff to cover during the work sessions. Mr. McReynolds then reviewed the materials starting with the proposed FY2003 General Fund Budget Summary for revenues and expenditures which showed the percentage of change over the original FY2002 budget. He stated he was beginning to hear things out of Richmond concerning reductions to the Constitutional Officers, but he felt there would be fairly level revenues coming in from the State.

Discussion ensued concerning how to deal with the possible shortfalls in the State budget and the formulas for funding certain agencies which provide services to York County citizens.

Mr. Burgett noted the County can't be expected to step in and take up all the slack on all these programs.

Mr. Shepperd asked if the shortfalls had been prioritized.

Mr. Burgett stated that part of the problem was that the staff doesn't know what the shortfalls are yet.

Mrs. Noll noted that the County has to provide funding for the mandated programs, but it won't know what it can do with the others until the State budget is finalized.

Mr. McReynolds stated staff was working to define the areas that will need to be dealt with, and they were also working hard to come up with some creative solutions.

Chairman Wiggins stated the Board needed to do everything possible to make sure the County's citizens don't suffer, but at this point in time the Board doesn't know how they will be affected.

Mr. McReynolds stated the County would be negatively impacted in the Human Services area. He then returned to the review of the budget information, discussing personnel increases and health insurance costs which have gone up substantially. He stated the increase for FY2003 would be approximately 10-12 percent instead of the original 5 percent increase that was anticipated.

Discussion followed on personnel increases and market adjustment increases.

Mr. McReynolds then reviewed the increases in the non-personnel areas of the budget. Upon completion of his review, he reminded the Board members of staff's need to know the budget areas which the Board would like addressed at future work sessions on the budget.

NEW BUSINESS

IMPROVEMENTS TO ROUTE 17

Mr. McReynolds indicated that VDOT held a public hearing recently to receive comments on the widening project for Route 17 north of Fort Eustis Boulevard; and, as a result of the comments received at that meeting, the VDOT district office has indicated a willingness to recommend to the State office and the Commonwealth Transportation Board that the project be abandoned and that those funds be allocated to improvements to lower Route 17. He stated the district office has asked the staff to make a request for allocation to another project. Mr. McReynolds stated staff is very pleased and encouraged that VDOT is listening and seeing that this would be a better use of funding. He recommended the adoption of proposed Resolution R02-68 to make the formal request to VDOT.

Mrs. Noll moved the adoption of proposed Resolution R02-68 that reads:

A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD AND THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CANCEL THE PROPOSED ROUTE 17 WIDENING PROJECT BETWEEN ROUTE 105 AND SIEGE LANE AND TO TRANSFER THE REMAINING BUDGETED FUNDS TO AN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BETWEEN ELLA TAYLOR ROAD AND ROUTE 134

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Transportation recently conducted a design public hearing for a proposed project to widen Route 17 from four to six lanes between Route 105 (Fort Eustis Boulevard) and Siege Lane (Project #6017-099-F19 / Federal #NH-103-1 (136)); and

WHEREAS, the overwhelming sentiment of those attending the public hearing was that the proposed project would not meet traffic needs and that improvements should instead be made on the segments south of Fort Eustis Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, while the Board of Supervisors has supported the widening of this segment of Route 17 to six lanes in its endorsement of long-range regional transportation plans, so too has it supported the widening of the more heavily-congested segments south of Route 105; and

WHEREAS, the Board strongly believes that the southern segments of Route 17 should be considered a higher priority for improvement and has consistently expressed this position in its comments to the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Virginia Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Transportation has previously agreed to reduce the scope of the proposed project and to transfer the resulting cost savings of approximately

\$10 million to fund an improvement project on the segment of Route 17 between Wolftrap Road and Ella Taylor Road; and

WHEREAS, based on the public hearing comments, which validate the Board's opinion that improvements are needed most on the segments of Route 17 south of Fort Eustis Boulevard, the Board believes that the subject project should be cancelled and the remaining funds should be added to those already transferred to the project BETWEEN Wolftrap Road and Ella Taylor Road, thus allowing that project to be extended further south toward Route 134;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors, this the 12th day of March, 2002, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Virginia Department of Transportation be, and they are hereby, respectfully requested to cancel Project #6017-099-F19 and to re-allocate and transfer the remaining budgeted funds to facilitate improvements on the segment of Route 17 south of Ella Taylor Road toward Route 134, thus supplementing the funds previously transferred to a project for improvements between Wolftrap Road and Ella Taylor Road.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator be, and he is hereby, authorized to convey the Board's position to the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Virginia Department of Transportation and to take such other actions as he deems appropriate to urge consideration of the County's position and to communicate the County's position with officials at the regional and state level.

On roll call, the vote was:

Yea: (5) Zaremba, Noll, Burgett, Shepperd, Wiggins
Nay: (0)

CLOSED MEETING. At 7:50 p.m. Mr. Zaremba moved that the Board convene in Closed Meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(3) of the Code of Virginia pertaining to the acquisition of property for a public purpose, and Section 2.2-3711(a)(7) pertaining to the provision of legal counsel concerning actual litigation.

On roll call, the vote was:

Yea: (5) Noll, Burgett, Shepperd, Zaremba, Wiggins
Nay: (0)

Meeting Reconvened. At 8:25 p.m. the meeting was reconvened in open session by order of the Chair.

Mr. Zaremba moved the adoption of Resolution SR-1 that reads:

A RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY COMPLIANCE WITH THE FREEDOM
OF INFORMATION ACT REGARDING MEETING IN CLOSED SES-
SION

WHEREAS, the York County Board of Supervisors has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

March 12, 2002

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the York County Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors this the 12th day of March, 2002, hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the York County Board of Supervisors.

Yea: (5) Burgett, Shepperd, Zaremba, Noll, Wiggins
Nay: (0)

Meeting Adjourned. At 8:28 p.m. Mrs. Noll moved that the meeting adjourned to 7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 14, 2002, in the Board Room, York Hall, for the purpose of conducting public hearings on the proposed FY2003 Budget and 2002 tax rates.

On roll call, the vote was:

Yea: (5) Shepperd, Zaremba, Noll, Burgett, Wiggins
Nay: (0)

James O. McReynolds, Clerk
York County Board of Supervisors

Donald E. Wiggins, Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors